



University of Tuscia

Mobility and International Cooperation Office

**UNIVERSITY CORRIDORS
FOR REFUGEES - UNICORE 3.0
(ETHIOPIA – UNITUS 2021/2023)**

**Call for applications for 2 study grants and welcome services
for refugee students registering for Second Cycle Degree
Programmes taught in English or Italian at the University of
Tuscia for the Academic Years 2021-2022 and 2022-2023**

DEADLINE: April 1st 2021

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Art. 1 – Subject, benefits and duration

The general objective of the UNICORE 3.0 pilot project is to promote the right to higher education for refugees through study corridors from Ethiopia to Italy.

Art. 1.1. - National Project Partners

The project is jointly promoted by a consortium of partners:

- United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)
- Caritas Italiana
- Diaconia Valdese
- Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (MAECI)
- The universities signing the cooperation agreement for the project “University Corridors for Refugees - 3.0 (Ethiopia - 2021/2023)”, including the University of Tuscia.

The benefits are intended for holders of International Protection, certified by UNHCR, living in Ethiopia, who will register in one of the Second cycle degree programmes taught in English or Italian at University of Tuscia for the A.Y. 2021-22 and 2022-23 listed in Art. 10.

For the full list of the programmes available at University of Tuscia see Art. 10.

Art. 1.2 - Local Partners of the project

University of Tuscia will be supported in the project by local partners, including Caritas Viterbo, ARCI Viterbo, LazioDisco Viterbo, AUCS (Associazione Universitaria Cooperazione e Sviluppo).

Details of the service offered by the local partners are specified in the cooperation agreement by which the partners agree to join the partnership.

Art. 1.3 - Supports and benefits offered

Beneficiaries of the UNICORE 3.0 project will benefit of support in:

- pre-enrolling at the Italian Embassy in Ethiopia and carrying out immigration procedures (Visa and preparation of supporting documents) assisted by UNHCR local representatives;
- full coverage of the expenses incurred before the arrival in Italy, including flight tickets provided by CARITAS in Ethiopia;
- full tuition fee reduction (in any case the student must pay € 16 in revenue stamp - amount subject to change for A.Y. 2021-22);
- € 6.000 per year of study provided by University of Tuscia, the amount will be shifted in two payments: the first payment (€ 3.000) will be paid at the arrival and the second (€ 3.000) will be paid after six months, subject to the achievement of merit requirements;
- Accommodation service in a shared apartment with other students at the monthly cost of 50€ per month. The student will give in kind contribution being actively involved in social projects coordinated by CARITAS Viterbo who is responsible for the co-housing project;
- A personal tablet (University of Tuscia);

- Annual Public transportation subscription (Municipality of Viterbo);
- Psychological support provided by ARCI and University of Tuscia;
- free Italian Course provided both by the language center of the University of Tuscia and ARCI Viterbo;
- AUCS (University Association for Cooperation and Development) will support the winners in the integration in the student life and will assist them for any problem encountered in student life;
- Assistance of the staff of the Mobility and International Cooperation Office of University of Tuscia for any problem related to the studies and the enrolment procedure;
- bureaucratic assistance in the application for the Italian residence permit provided by ARCI Viterbo.

Art. 1.4 - Access to the Regional Scholarship for the right to Education (LAZIODISCO)

Students selected for the UNICORE 3.0 project must apply for the additional scholarship provided by Lazio Regional Board for the Right to Education (LazioDisco). The call to apply for LazioDisco benefits are normally published in May on the LazioDisco website (www.laziodisco.it) and the deadline for the application usually is 20/07/2021 (please check the LazioDisco website).

The students will also be supported by the staff of Mobility and International Cooperation Office of University of Tuscia in the application for LazioDisco benefits.

Students who have correctly completed the application for LazioDisco grants and are included as winners in the ranking lists can receive for A.Y. 2021-22 and 2022-23:

- accommodation in a student dormitory;
- free access to university restaurants (“mensa”) for one meal per day during the entire year;
- a study grant worth of approximately € 3.800 per academic year, additional to the UNITUS scholarships, divided in two payments and after verification of the academic results achieved.

LazioDisco benefits can be assigned for A.Y. 2021-22 and A.Y. 2022-23, subject to application submission and

maintenance of merit requirements.

The possibility of being awarded LazioDisco benefits is dependent on the rules set in the specific call for applications for A.Y. 2021/22 and A.Y. 2022/23, including the merit requirements to be achieved in order to maintain the benefits during each academic year and not to incur in their revocation.

- Meal card with one free meal a day from Monday to Saturday in our student canteen or affiliated restaurant (LazioDisco).

Art. 2 – Incompatibility

The UNICORE 3.0 study grants cannot be combined with:

- merit-based study grants/prizes issued by the University of Tuscia for the support of international students;
- study grants issued by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (MAECI);
- CRUI grants for beneficiaries of international protection;

- study grants issued by foreign governmental bodies or institutions aimed at assisting the enrolment of international students at Italian Universities.

Art. 3 – Admission requirements

Application is open exclusively to candidates who:

1. are residing in Ethiopia and have been recognized the refugee status in collaboration with UNHCR;
2. hold a qualification valid for admission to the chosen Second Cycle Degree Programme and the degree must be issued by a higher education institution;
3. have a Grade Point Average of at least 3.0, 24/30 of the Italian grading system, according to the Italian tertiary education grading systems approved by the Ministry of Education (Annex 1);
4. the degree must not be obtained before the year 2016;
5. meet the specific admission requirements of the Second cycle degree program of interest;
6. have never been enrolled before in a degree program at any of the Partner University.

Art. 4 – Selection criteria and application documents

Art. 4.1 - Selection criteria and evaluation committee

Applicants are selected on the basis of the merit requirements mentioned in Article 5. For the University of Tuscia the evaluation will be carried out by a Selection Committee appointed by the Rector and composed by Professor Mario Savino (Teaching staff in charge of the project), a member of the Mobility and International Cooperation Office, the Professor in charge of the Master Programmes concerned - or her/his delegates – and any other relevant teaching staff or third party designated by the University of Tuscia or the relevant Professors Board).

Art. 4.2 - Application documents

Applicants are required to submit the following documentation:

Mandatory documents:

1. the application form available at the following link: <http://www.unitus.it/it/unitus/relazioni-internazionali/articolo/unhrc>
2. a copy of their currently valid Refugee Identity card issued in collaboration with UNHCR or the Ration Card Number of their Proof of Registration;
3. an official certificate confirming the qualification required for admission to the chosen degree programme;
4. an official transcript of exams passed and relative marks;
5. any relevant and additional document required by the specific programmes chosen (see Art. 10);
6. a detailed Curriculum Vitae (CV); <https://europa.eu/europass/en/create-europass-cv>

Not Mandatory documents

1. letter/s of references written by supervisor/advisor supporting the student's application;
2. a motivation letter (maximum one A4 page).

All documents presented by applicants must be in English or Italian.

All documents in any language other than Italian or English must be supported by a translation into English or Italian on plain (non-letterhead) paper. At the application stage, the translation may be done directly by the applicant. Applicants must also provide the original document. At this stage, it is not necessary to provide an official (sworn/certified) translation into Italian, nor the relevant legalization or "declaration of value" of the qualification.

Art. 4.3 - Deadlines and modalities

Applications, along with the documents listed in article 4.2, may be submitted from March 1st, 2021 at 12:00 pm (Italian Official Time) to 1st April, 2021 at 12:00 pm (Italian Official Time), exclusively by e-mail to the following address: international@unitus.it

Applications that are not properly filled in or complete with all required documentation will not be accepted.

Applicants are strongly recommended to apply to programmes for which they meet the specific entry requirements.

Applicants are requested to check the entry requirements for their chosen Second Cycle Degree Programmes at the following list:

1) Master Degree programmes offered in English

- [Circular Economy \(LM-76\) \(MSc fully in English\)](#)
- [Forestry and Environmental Sciences \(LM-73\) International Course – Multiple Degree \(MSc fully in English\)](#)
- [Security and Human Rights LM90 \(MSc fully in English\)](#)

2) Master Degree programmes offered in Italian

- [Agricultural and Environmental Sciences \(LM-69\)](#)
- [Environment and Forests Conservation and Restoration \(LM-73\)](#)
- [Biotechnologies for Agro-food Safety and Quality \(LM-7\)](#)
- [Marine Biology and Ecology \(LM-6\)](#)
- [Cellular and Molecular Biology \(LM-6\)](#)
- [Economics and Communication for Management and Innovation \(LM-77\)](#)
- [Marketing and Quality \(LM-77\)](#)
- [Mechanical Engineering \(LM-33\)](#)
- [Management, Finance and Controlling \(LM-77\)](#)
- [Industrial Biotechnology for health and well-being \(LM-8\)](#)
- [Landscape Architecture \(LM-3\) \(joint degree\)](#)

- [Food Science and Technology \(LM-70\) \(joint degree\)](#)
- [Languages and Cultures for International Communication \(LM-37\)](#)
- [Political Science, International Security Studies and Public Communication \(LM-62\)](#)
- [Archaeology and Art History: Preservation and Enhancement \(LM-2/LM-89\)](#)
- [Modern Philology \(LM-14\)](#)
- [Digital Information \(LM-91\)](#)

Art. 5 – Selection process

Applicants are selected on the basis of merits requirements and the evaluation process is divided into two stages:

- Stage 1: preliminary evaluation of the documentation provided by the applicants
- Stage 2: interview of the applicants.

Art. 5.1 - Stage 1 - Evaluation of the documentation

The Selection Committee will evaluate the documentation according to the following criteria:

- Academic background and GPA (score: 0-15)
- Evaluation of CV: professional experience and personal skills (score: 0-15)
- Coherence between previous studies and selected Second Cycle Degree programme (score: 0-10)

Applicants receiving a score of less than 25 will not be admitted to Stage 2 of the selection process.

Applicants admitted to Stage 2 will be notified by e-mail by 1st May 2021.

Art. 5.2 - Stage 2 - Interview

Applicants admitted to Stage 2 will be interviewed by the Selection Committee, which will assess their technical skills, subject matter expertise as well as proficiency in the language of the selected Second Cycle Degree programme (English or Italian).

The interviews will take place from (03/05/2021) onwards via online platforms such as Zoom, Google Meet, etc. Candidates will be notified by email about the date and the time of their interview.

Interviews will be graded on a scale of 40 points.

The Selection Committee may be integrated for each Programme by at least one professor teaching in that Programme.

Applicants are requested to come to the interview with the Refugee Identity Card used during the on-line application. A third party must be present at the beginning of the interview in order to identify the applicant.

Applicants with disabilities who need assistance during the interview must specify on the application form the type of disability they have and the type of support they need. In this case, an official disability certificate is required.

Art. 5.3 - Establishment and approval of the final ranking list

Applicants scoring less than 50/80 points will not be included in the final ranking.

Applicants rankings are drawn up by the Selection Committee by adding up the results of the two phases. The rankings are organized in descending order of points.

The two available seats are awarded on the basis of a gender balance ratio and the Committee will draw up two different rankings according to the gender of the candidates.

Only in the event that the list of eligible candidates does not include representatives of both genders, seats may be awarded to two representatives of the same gender.

In the event of a tie, preference will be given to the youngest candidate.

The list of eligible applicants for the University of Tuscia, including those not selected for the available seats, will be notified by email and published on <http://universitycorridors.unhcr.it> and <http://www.unitus.it/it/unitus/mobility-programs/articolo/unhrc> **not later than May 30th 2021**. In this list, the refugee ID card number or ration number card of PoR will be used in place of the full name to identify eligible and not eligible candidates. The former will be notified by e-mail.

Art. 5.4 - Acceptance

The winning applicants must reply to the University communication accepting the scholarship within 10 days from receipt. Failure to provide a reply within the deadline will result in loss of benefits.

By accepting the scholarship, the student fully and unreservedly accepts UNICORE 3.0 project support and financial benefits under the conditions set out in the present call. By accepting the scholarship, the student also confirms under his/her own responsibility that he/she does not fall under any of the conditions of incompatibility established in Art. 2 of the present call. He/She must also inform the University of any changes in the declared data that may occur during the year.

Selected applicants are not automatically enrolled in their chosen Second Cycle Degree Programme.

Selected applicants are required to comply with applicable provisions and deadlines, including the enrolment regulations established by the Memorandum issued by the Italian Ministry of University and Research concerning foreign students' access to university degree programmes.

Applicants will receive detailed information from the Mobility and International Cooperation Office of the University of Tuscia on the procedure to follow in order to complete their enrolment.

Art. 5.5 - Ranking scroll and assignment of available seats

In case of vacant seats, the University of Tuscia reserves the right to search for eligible candidates from ranking of other University partners of UNICORE 3.0. Potential candidates must meet the specific entry requirements of University of Tuscia.

Potential candidates must undergo any further selection process that the University of Tuscia deems appropriate in order to verify specific entry requirements.

Art. 6 – Renewal requirements

In order to renew the scholarship for the second year students are required to obtain 24 university credits (CFU) by the end of July 2022.

Art. 6.1 Additional Renewals

Students are required to graduate by the last session available for their matriculation year, e.g. February 2024. Students who do not succeed to graduate by September 2023 can request a 6 months extension of the scholarship, at the condition to have earned at least 80 university credits and to graduate by 28th February 2024. Extension request must be submitted to the Mobility and International Cooperation Office.

Art. 7 – Withdrawal

Candidates selected as winners can withdraw by sending an e-mail to international@unitus.it by July 10th 2021. In case of withdrawals, the scholarship will be allocated to the next eligible candidate in the ranking.

Art. 8 – Information notice concerning data processing

In compliance with European data protection policy, the personal data collected are processed as described in the following page available (in Italian) at: <http://www.unitus.it/it/unitus/footer/articolo/privacy1>

The applicant gives consent to publish his/her refugee ID card number or ration number card of his/her PoR (proof of registration) in the final list of candidates admitted to the project on the website:

<http://universitycorridors.unhcr.it/>

The Administration reserves the right to verify the truth of the information provided. Without prejudice to the penal sanctions of article 76 of Italian Presidential Decree no. 445/2000, in the event of fraudulent information being discovered as a result of such verification the applicant will forfeit the right to the study grant.

Art. 9 – Conditional issuing of the call for applications

This call for application is issued conditionally to the signing of the cooperation agreement and its addendum for the project “University Corridors for Refugees 3.0” (Ethiopia, 2021-2023) among all the parties listed in Art. 1. This call might be suspended or withdrawn in accordance with the developments of the legal and epidemiological framework of the health emergency known as “Coronavirus” or “SARS-CoV-19”.

Art. 10 – List of the Second Cycle Degree taught in English and Italian participating in the call for University of Tuscia

For the list of the Second Cycle Degree taught in English and Italian at the University of Tuscia see:

<http://www.unitus.it/it/unitus/mobility-programs/articolo/unhrc>

Any candidate may opt for maximum three Programmes. Candidates must autonomously check the entry requirements of the chosen Second Cycle Degree Programmes.

Important notice: in case of changes of offered programmes for the second cycle degree programmes in A.Y. 2021-22 (with assessment of personal competencies), please check updates on the same site.

Art. 11 – Publication of the Call

The present call and the application form will be published on the websites: www.unitus.it

<https://universitycorridors.unhcr.it/> - <http://www.unitus.it/it/unitus/mobility-programs/articolo/unhrc>

Art. 12 – Procedure Manager

In compliance with the provisions of Law no. 241/1990, art.5, the person in charge of the procedure at the present call is dott. Carlo Contardo, Head of Mobility and International Cooperation Office, University of Tuscia.

Viterbo, 01/03/2021

The Rector

Prof. Stefano Ubertini



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Stefano Ubertini", written over a horizontal line.